institutions, incentivizing State Governments for increasing State outlays on higher education, strengthening of science based research in universities, frequent updating of curricula, introduction of semester system, faculty improvement programme and other reforms are also being implemented in the XI Plan for improving the quality of higher educational institutions and course content.

Identification of fake institutions

2665. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fake universities and educational institutions both vocational and technical identified during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the details of action taken against such fake educational institutions;

(c) the steps taken to check the further expansion of such fake universities and educational institutes; and

(d) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the students pursuing studies therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Central Government, through University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), keeps a watch over nefarious activities of the fake universities/institutions which run vocational and technical courses. During the last three years and the current year so far, the UGC has identified three fake universities/ institutions (Vocational and Technical), two in Uttar Pradesh and one in Delhi. The AICTE, during this period, has identified 205 fake technical education institutions, out of which 76 are in Maharashtra, 24 in Delhi, 22 in Karnataka, 16 each in Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh, 15 in West Bengal, 10 in Haryana, 9 in Chandigarh, 8 in Andhra Pradesh, 3 in Gujarat, 2 each in Punjab and Kerala and 1 each in Goa and Rajasthan.

(b) to (d) The name of such technical universities/institutions has been included in the list of the fake universities /institutions maintained by the UGC and the A1CTE and also placed on their respective official websites for information to the students and general public. With a view to create awareness in this regard, wide publicity is given by the UGC and the AICTE every year through print / electronic media, as well as on their official websites, cautioning the students and parents not to take admission in such unapproved institutions. Show cause notices have been issued to these unapproved institutions advising them to seek approval of the competent body or close down such courses. The State / UT Governments have also been directed to take action under Indian Penal Code against these fake technical institutions. A legislative proposal to prevent, prohibit and punish unfair practices in technical and medical educational institutions and universities, including institution claiming to be recognized by the statutory authorities, where such institution is not Recognized under law, is also under consideration of the Government.